

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

EUR-12 IGA-01 COME-00 XMB-04 FRB-01 OPIC-06 EA-10

/135 W

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R 011511Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4176

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 1555

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN MR SG ML

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH OMVS PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

REF: NOUAKCHOTT 1552

1. SUMMARY: JULY 31 EDITION OF PARTY PAPER, CHAAB, CARRIED FULL-PAGE INTERVIEW OF OMVS MATTERS WITH DIOP MAMADOU AMADOU, MAURITANIAN MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CURRENT PRESIDENT OF OMVS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. IN INTERVIEW, AMADOU SUMMARIZED ASSISTANCE TO OMVS FROM DONOR COUNTRIES AND COMMENTED ON STATUS OF CHINESE PARTICIPATION IN MANATALI DAM. END SUMMARY.

2. AMADOU COMMENTED THAT SINCE LAST ORDINARY SESSION OF OMVS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, SECRETARIAT STAFF HAS PREPARED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PRINCIPAL PROJECTS, I.E., MANATALI DAM, DELTA DAM, SENEGAL RIVER NAVIGATION, PORT DEVELOPMENT AT SAINT LOUIS AND KAYES, AND RIVER HARBOR DEVELOPMENT. PROBLEM OF DONOR FINANCING REMAINS. ACCORDING TO AMADOU PLAN FOR FINANCING OMVS PROJECTS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED, HOWEVER, AND THIS PLAN WILL BE OBJECT OF THOROUGH DISCUSSION AT CURRENT MEETING OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. UNCLASSIFIED

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CIL OF MINISTERS IN NOUAKCHOTT.

3. AMADOU SUMMARIZED DONOR COMMITMENTS TO OMVS FOLLOWING JULY 1974 MEETING WITH DONOR ORGANIZATIONS: (A) CANADA. AGREED TO MAKE AVAILABLE \$5 MILLION FOR PORTSAND HARBOR STUDIES. CANADA IS ALSO EXPECTED TO PROVIDE PERSONNEL TO OMVS. (B) FRANCE. WILL MAKE CONSTRUCTION STUDY OF DELTA DAM AT COST OF 450 MILLION CFA. ALSO ANTICIPATED THAT FRANCOIS WILL MAKE PERSONNEL AVAILABLE TO OMVS. (C) SAUDI ARABIA. CONFIRMED PARTICIPATION TO EXTENT OF \$10 MILLION AND PROMISED TO INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTION. (D) LIBYA. PROMISED TO PARTICIPATE IN NEXT DONOR MEETING IN DAKAR AT WHICH TIME IT WILL ANNOUNCE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO OMVS. (E) KUWAIT. CONFIRMED IT WILL MAKE \$33 MILLION AVAILABLE TO OMVS AT MOST FAVORABLE TERMS. (F) UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. PROMISED TO PARTICIPATE IN DAKAR DONOR SESSION AT WHICH TIME UAE IS EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE LEVEL OF ITS ASSISTANCE. (G) WEST GERMANY. CONFIRMED ITS PARTICIPATION TO EXTENT OF 4 BILLION CFA, SAID IT WILL PROVIDE 6 MILLION DM FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MANATALI DAM, AND PROMISED TO ANNOUNCE INCREASE IN ITS CONTRIBUTION AT DAKAR DONOR SESSION. (H) EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. NO SPECIFIC SUM HAS BEEN PLEDGED BUT AMADOU SAID HE EXPECTED EEC WILL ANNOUNCE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION AT DAKAR DONOR MEETING. (I) AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. ADB PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL OFFER 14 BILLION CFA TO OMVS. ADB IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN DAKAR MEETING.

UJM INTERVIEW MADE NO MENTION OF POSSIBLE US ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH IN OPENING SPEECH BEFORE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AMADOU COMMENTED THAT USAID WILL DO STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF HARNESSING SENEGAL RIVER. ONLY REFERENCE IN INTERVIEW TO WORLD BANK WAS FACT THAT OMVS OFFICIALS MET IN WASHINGTON WITH BANK OFFICIALS.

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT CHINESE PARTICIPATION IN MANATALI DAM, AMADOU REPLIED: "WE HAD REQUESTED PRC TO TAKE CHARGE OF STUDY FOR BUILDING MANATALI DAM. PRC COMPLETED STUDY OF DAM. THAT STUDY WAS SUBMITTED TO OMVS AND DEEMED ACCEPTABLE. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESENT STATE OF THINGS FOR PRC TO TAKE OVER EXPENSE OF BUILDING MANATALI DAM. ALL THAT I CAN SAY IS THAT OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH PRC ARE CONTINUING AND WE CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT PRC ACCEPTS OUR REQUEST AS CONCERNS FINANCING SFD COMPLETION OF THIS DAM."

6.&7TEXT OF INTERVIEW BEING POUCHED AF/W AND AID/AFR/CWR.HANDY SIDE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, POLICIES, PRESS CONFERENCES, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NOUAKC01555
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750267-0925
From: NOUAKCHOTT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750890/aaaadbuc.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NOUAKCHOTT 1552
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 FEB 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERVIEW WITH OMVS PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
TAGS: ECIN, EAID, MR, SG, ML, (AMADOU, DIOP MAMADOU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006